

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2747
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2017
Protection to Farmers for Emu Bird Farming
Reddy Shri J.C. Divakar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the assistance/ protection provided by the Government to the farmers of various States for emu bird farming;
- (b) whether it is a fact that farmers have lost miserably in emu birds farming, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide any alternative occupation to such farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the various other steps taken by the Government to protect these farmers?

Answer

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) Assistance for emu bird farming was provided under the erstwhile Poultry Venture Capital Fund Scheme (PVCF) from 2006-07 to 2013-14 and later since 2014-15 under PVCF-Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation component of National Livestock Mission. A total of 879 emu units have been assisted all over the country with Interest-free Loan to the tune of Rs.41.88 crore and back-ended subsidy to the tune of Rs. 27.55 crore. The various components kept under the basket of poultry activities under PVCF including establishing poultry breeding farm for emu, were based on the consultation with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and these are based on banking norms.

(b)to(d) Farmers suffered financial losses in emu farming mainly because of lack of processing, marketing and public acceptance for emu meat, eggs and its other by-products. There is no proposal to provide any alternative occupation to such farmers. However, Ministry of Finance has stated that as per extant guidelines of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the affected borrowers of emu bird farming may approach the concerned banks for restructuring / rescheduling of the term loan availed by them including to seek a moratorium on repayment of interest and/or the instalment. Bank would take a decision depending on the circumstances of each case, subject to compliance with the RBI's guidelines of restructuring of loans as well as their commercial considerations.
